

CONFIDENTIAL.]

[No. 45 of 1877.

REPORT
ON
NATIVE PAPERS
FOR THE

Week ending the 10th November 1877.

LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

| No. | Names of Newspapers. | Place of publication. | Number of copies issued. | Dates of papers received and examined for the week. |
|--------------------|--------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|---|
| BENGALI. | | | | |
| <i>Monthly.</i> | | | | |
| 1 | “Bhárat Shramjíbí” | Baráhanagar | 4,000 | |
| 2 | “Rajshahye Sambád” | Rajshahye | ..... |  |
| 3 | “Grámbártá Prakáshiká” | Comercolly | 200 | |
| 4 | “Arya Pratibhá” | Bhowanipore | ..... |  |
| <i>Bi-monthly.</i> | | | | |
| 5 | “Culna Prakásh” | Culna | ..... |  |
| <i>Weekly.</i> | | | | |
| 6 | “Banga Hitaishí” | Bhowanipore | ..... |  |
| 7 | “Bishwa Dút” | Táligunj, Calcutta | ..... |  |
| 8 | “Bishwa Suhrid” | Mymensingh | 450 | |
| 9 | “Bhárat Mihir” | Do. | 658 | |
| 10 | “Bhárat Sangskárak” | Calcutta | ..... | 5th November 1877. |
| 11 | “Bengal Advertiser” | Do. | ..... |  |
| 12 | “Dacca Prakásh” | Dacca | 400 | |
| 13 | “Education Gazette” | Hooghly | 1,168 | 2nd ditto. |
| 14 | “Moorshedabad Pratinidhi” ... | Berhampore | ..... |  |
| 15 | “Pratikár” | Do. | 235 | |
| 16 | “Grámbártá Prakáshiká” ... | Comercolly | 200 | 3rd ditto. |
| 17 | “Sambád Bháskar” | Calcutta | ..... | 29th October 1877. |
| 18 | “Sulabha Samáchár” | Do. | 5,500 | 3rd November 1877. |
| 19 | “Sádháraní” | Chinsurah | 516 | 4th ditto. |
| 20 | “Hindu Hitaishini” | Dacca | 300 | |

| No. | Names of Newspapers. | Place of publication. | Number of copies issued. | Dates of papers received and examined for the week, |
|-----|-------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|---|
| | BENGALI—(Continued). | | | |
| | <i>Weekly</i> —(Continued). | | | |
| 21 | “Soma Prakásh” | Bhowanipore ... | 700 | 5th November 1877. |
| 22 | “Sahachar” | Calcutta ... | ..... | 5th ditto. |
| 23 | “Hindu Ranjiká” | Bauleah, Rajshahye | ..... |  |
| 24 | “Rungpore Dik Prakásh” ... | Kákiniá, Rungpore | 250 | |
| 25 | “Burdwan Pracháriká” ... | Burdwan ... | 165 | |
| | <i>Daily.</i> | | | |
| 26 | “Sambád Prabhákar” ... | Calcutta ... | 550 | |
| 27 | “Sambád Púrnachandrodaya” ... | Do. ... | ..... | 2nd to 6th November 1877. |
| 28 | “Samáchár Chandriká” ... | Do. ... | 625 | 2nd November 1877. |
| 29 | “Banga Vidyá Prakáshiká” ... | Do. ... | ..... | 1st to 7th November 1877. |
| 30 | “Arya Mihir” ... | Do. ... | ..... |  |
| | ENGLISH AND BENGALI. | | | |
| | <i>Weekly.</i> | | | |
| 31 | “Amrita Bazar Patriká” ... | Do. ... | 2,217 | |
| 32 | “Howrah Hitakarí” ... | Bethar, Howrah ... | 300 | |
| 33 | “Moorshedabad Patriká” ... | Berhampore ... | ..... | 2nd November 1877. |
| 34 | “Burrisal Bártábaha” ... | Burrisal ... | 300 | |
| | ENGLISH AND URDU. | | | |
| 35 | “Urdu Guide” | Calcutta ... | 400 | 3rd ditto. |
| | URDU. | | | |
| | <i>Bi-monthly.</i> | | | |
| 36 | “Akhbár-ul-Akhiár” ... | Mozufferpore ... | ..... |  |
| | HINDI. | | | |
| | <i>Weekly.</i> | | | |
| 37 | “Behár Bandhu” | Bankipore, Patna... | 509 | 7th ditto. |
| | PERSIAN. | | | |
| 38 | “Jám-Jahán-numá” | Calcutta ... | 250 | 9th ditto. |

INDIAN AND FOREIGN POLITICS.

We extract the following passage from an article in the *Sahachar*, of the 5th November, on the "Frontier Policy of Government":—The question arises what good

The Frontier policy of Government. may be expected to arise from the occupation of Khelat and Quetta? The plea, that the maintenance of peace in Beloochistan is necessary to the safety of India, is so weak, that it will not certainly be advanced by our rulers. Prompted by the fear of Russia, troops have been stationed in two places beyond the frontier. Government has repeatedly pointed out the advantage of securing, as an ally, the ruler of an independent kingdom like Afghanistan, which lies between Russian territories and India. But the policy which is pursued is likely to produce quite contrary results. In the Amir's opinion, the occupation of Khelat is doubtless a preliminary step to the invasion of Afghanistan. If, in course of time, though not at the present moment, Russian troops enter Cabul, the Afghans are likely to receive them as friends. The British troops would have been received as such if they had not crossed the frontier. Why Government, with all its knowledge of Afghan affairs and Afghan character, should persist in a line of policy, which is making an enemy of an ally, is a mystery to the public.

SAHACHAR,
November 5th, 1877.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION.

2. A correspondent of the *Moorshedabad Patriká*, of the 2nd November, attributes the present impoverished condition of India to the circumstance that the commerce of the country is entirely in the hands of Europeans; that native industries have been ruined by foreign competition; that Europeans enjoy a monopoly of all high appointments under Government; that grain is largely transported from one province of India to another, thus securing an equality of prices all over the country; and that England drains India of all her wealth. A free exportation of corn is another great evil. "We do not ask that this should be entirely stopped; but only desire that a quantity of food, at least sufficient for one year's consumption, be left in the country."

How India has been impoverished. 3. In continuation of the article noticed in paragraph 3 of the report for the 27th October, the *Sulabha Samáchár*, of the 3rd November, offers the following additional suggestions for the consideration of the members of the approaching railway conference:—

MOORSHEDABAD PATRIKA,
November 2nd, 1877.

20.—The water-closets attached to the several stations should be so constructed as not to offend decency.

21.—It is surprising that, while in all large stations there are hotels for the Europeans, refreshment-rooms are always denied to native passengers, on the plea that it is no business of the railway authorities to have them erected. Both hotels and refreshment-rooms, however, are exceedingly necessary.

22.—It is notorious that native passengers are constantly treated with rudeness by the railway officers. The establishment of a distinct tribunal is the only remedy that can be suggested for this evil. It should be competent in any native passenger or merchant, who may feel himself insulted or wronged, to seek the protection of this court, whose business it will be to see that no injustice is done. A number of native Inspectors, each entrusted with the

SULABHA SAMACHAR,
November 3rd, 1877.

supervision of three hundred miles of the line, should be appointed, subject to the control of this tribunal, but independent of the Traffic Manager. It should be the duty of these travelling Inspectors to inquire into all cases of oppression which may be committed, whether at the stations or in goods sheds, on passengers and merchants.

23.—In case of accidents the first and second class European passengers are treated with a consideration, which is altogether denied to those travelling in the third class. The former, in case of delay or detention, are allowed the hotel charges. This is wrong. The company should bear in mind that it derives the greater portion of its income from the third class passengers.

24.—It would conduce much to the convenience of native passengers if vernacular translations of the time and fare tables of the company, which are now published in English only, were made available to them.

25.—When trade is brisk large quantities of goods are allowed to lie about almost everywhere. This practice is injurious. It should, therefore, be ruled (1) that goods should be received as soon as they are ready for delivery; (2) that they should be despatched in the order of delivery; (3) that when brought the railway authorities should assign space for them in their sheds; (4) that no merchant should be detained for a receipt for more than four hours; (5) that goods should not be allowed to remain in the shed for more than 48 hours; and (6) that they be not kept, especially food-grains or other valuable articles, in uncovered places. The municipality of every city should attend to this matter.

4. Agreeing with the *Bhárat Sangskárak*, (paragraph 7 of our last report,) the *Grámbártá Prakáshiká*, of the 3rd November, denies that there has been any

general improvement in the condition of the tenantry. There is, indeed, a show of prosperity but no real progress. The agricultural population is divided into three classes, namely (1) those that own small holdings; (2) actual cultivators; and (3) laborers who work for wages. Exportation and the consequent rise in the price of corn has, to a certain extent, raised the status of those who belong to the first class. But even they are not always well off. Prices are not always high; while the fertility of the soil has diminished. The agriculturists of the second class, who drive the plough with their own hands, live from hand to mouth. Their wants, and consequently their expenses, have increased; they do not enjoy plenty throughout the year; a failure of crops in one season reduces them to poverty and debt. The condition of the laborers who constitute the third class, however, is the most miserable. When a famine occurs they are the first to feel its pressure. At such times they, indeed, earn higher wages, but the prices, too, are proportionately high. There is now more money in the country than formerly; but the people are steeped in chronic poverty, as is evidenced by the exceeding difficulty they experience in earning their livelihood.

5. We make the following extracts from an article in the *Soma Prakash*, of the 5th November, headed, "Mr. Eden's duties to the people of Bengal." We have noticed that Mr. Eden is

gradually appreciating the worth of the natives of Bengal and is rewarding them accordingly. Competent men are provided with suitable appointments; while the services of those that perform their duties satisfactorily are not allowed to go unrewarded. Charitable persons, who have voluntarily constructed works of public utility, are publicly thanked and encouraged. Grades have been introduced among the subordinate officers of the Education Department. A long residence in Bengal has endeared him to the people; and a close relationship has, as it were, sprung up between him and them. Hence it is, that an impression seems to prevail that they are entitled to these favours at his hands. Properly considered, these are rather duties than acts of favour on the part of Governors. But whether it is owing to their faults or the misfortune of the country, it is a fact that these have now come to be sought as favours. We, too, have called them such; for, if Mr. Eden withheld them, the people could not enforce their bestowal. For this reason His Honor is entitled to our gratitude. But the whole duty of a Lieutenant-Governor is not performed by an impartial bestowal of appointments, impartial administration of justice, and the granting of equal protection to all. There still remains more important work for him to do, which mainly consists in endeavours to benefit the people in all ways. Mr. Eden certainly will not consider this result accomplished if only they have plenty of food, are well-clad, and possess a smattering of English education to qualify them for service under Europeans. Long subjection to foreign rule has destroyed the vitality of the Bengalis. They need resuscitation. To do this, they should be given admission to all manner of work in all departments of the public service. Efforts should be made to remove the disgrace and stigma of weakness and cowardice, which have for a long time past fastened upon the Bengalis, and made them objects of contempt. In order to do this, they should be allowed admission into the army. It is wrong to prejudge their case and declare that they will never make good soldiers. There is no proficiency acquired without encouragement and scope for action. Do not the Bengalis shew their ability in every work which they have been permitted to do? They can make good *lathials*; is it impossible for them to become soldiers? They should also be taught arts, manufactures, agriculture on improved principles, and commerce. Natives possess the requisite talents for all useful work; they are, however, effortless and indolent. We believe that the natural fertility of the country has had much to do with this.

6 Now that Government is believed to have the question of the Qualifications of Baboo Nilámbar Mookerjee of Cashmere. appointment of a Resident to the Court of Cashmere under consideration, a correspondent of the same paper observes that Baboo Nilámbar Mookerjee, M.A. and B.L., who is already in the service of the Maharajah, and stands high in his favour for his undoubted talents, is the man most eligible for it. The writer dwells on the many qualifications of the Baboo, and his staunch loyalty to the British Government.

7. The following is the substance of an article in the *Sahachar*, of the 5th November, headed the "Governmental sojourn in Simla":—The Government of India describe their own position in this country as a despotism, tempered only by the force of public opinion. Whatever it might have been in former years, this has become wholly untrue since the days of Lord Lawrence. Public opinion is listened to only when by so doing Government is not required to change any part of its settled policy. At other times the opinions and recommendations of the Secretary of State are the only checks

SOMA PEAKASH,
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on its conduct. Take the case of the annual sojourn in Simla. The native as well as the Anglo-Indian Press has repeatedly and with one voice protested against this, and pointed out the injurious consequences of the practice. Neither the work of administration nor legislation can be properly carried on from Simla. The non-official members cannot be present at the meetings of the Legislative Council held there; yet the practice is not discontinued, on the plea that the Viceroy and the members of his council cannot bear the heat of Calcutta. But it may be asked, are they for the country or the country for them? We do not grudge our rulers occasional recreation; but that the greater portion of the year should be so spent is extremely objectionable. Besides, the matter wears a more reprehensible aspect, when we consider that this trip to Simla annually costs this impoverished country a sum of ten lakhs of rupees, which might be more profitably spent in establishing technical schools for the people. The country has been, within the last few years, impoverished by a frequent recurrence of famines and cyclones; but it is to be regretted that the rulers continue to be as much given to habits of luxury as ever. The example set in this respect by the superior authorities has also an exceedingly demoralizing effect on the subordinate officers of Government. The evil is gradually increasing. Lord Lawrence used to come back to the capital before October, while the present Viceroy does not return before the end of December. We are sorry to have to write thus of the highest ruler in the land, but we cannot help it. This annual exodus to Simla has caused an impression to prevail that the post of Governor-General is no longer necessary. The Governors of Madras and Bombay are allowed to correspond directly with the Secretary of State; while telegrams are daily received from England. As a matter of fact also, the Governor-General does but little. What is then the use of keeping up this expensive show? No other post in any country of the world has such a high salary attached to it. It certainly does not behove those to accept the post of Viceroy, who fear that the Indian climate will not suit them. Have the members of the higher classes of English society grown so delicate? This was not certainly the case before.

8. The same paper writes a long editorial condemning the practice

Frequent changes in the existing laws, injurious. of constantly amending and modifying the existing laws. For the last fifteen years the legislative machine has known no rest. Laws, on which depend the security of life and property of the people, have been thoroughly changed every five years since 1860. It certainly takes some time to become acquainted with the provisions of such enactments as the Stamp Act, the Registration and the Limitation Acts; but hardly have these been mastered than another set of laws is ready to hand. Not to speak of the common people, even the judges and pleaders are greatly perplexed by this circumstance. A number of most important Acts were passed in 1859 and 1860 after much deliberation. They were the results of the labours of some of the most experienced, learned, and able lawyers and statesmen that ever came to India. It may be boldly asserted, without fear of contradiction, that none of equal ability have since occupied seats in the council. Who does not, with his whole heart, respect such men as Sir Barnes Peacock, Sir Charles Jackson, Sir Henry Harrington, Sir Frederic Currie, and Sir John Peter Grant, who were thoroughly acquainted with the state and wants of the country? At least a period of twenty years should have been allowed to elapse before any attempt was made to amend the laws enacted by them after such long and sustained deliberation. We however, observe, with regret, that the case is quite the contrary at the

SAHACHAR,
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present time. Every new law member tinkers with the most important Acts in his time. Sir S. Maine made the Stamp, Registration, and other Acts quite new. To him succeeded Sir James Stephen, who, although we are indebted to him for the Evidence Act, caused much confusion by his amended Registration and Limitation Acts and the Criminal Procedure Code. Sir Arthur Hobhouse came after him. The same change, confusion, and public uneasiness took place. He has left the Civil Procedure Code in such a condition, that the mahajuns now hesitate to lend out money, while it has greatly gratified the habitual debtors. Mr. Stokes, the present Menu, is now acting over the same part. His appointment was a great mistake, which Government will yet find out to their cost. He has already amended the Limitation and Registration Acts; while, at his instance, Mr. Cockerell has undertaken a revision of the Stamp Law. An increase of revenue is sought to be obtained by raising the stamp duties, which are already so high that, to the poor, litigation is almost impossible. Except in the High Court in its original jurisdiction, the successful parties in a law suit are never able to recover from their opponents the expenses of litigation. An enhancement of the stamp duties, in the face of this fact, can only be regarded as an act of oppression and guile, and will prove to be a mockery of justice. In the name of the country, we protest against this measure.

9. The same paper writes strongly against the conduct of the deputa-

A deputation to Bombay for the purpose of presenting Sir Richard Temple with an address.

tion, consisting of three members of the Indian League, who proceeded to Bombay to present an address to Sir Richard Temple. Nothing could be more untrue than the sentiments expressed in this document. It is said that the signatures to the address were secretly obtained in mofussil towns from men who were quite innocent of its contents.

The editor dwells on the importance to Government of attending to the The growth of a native public opinion. growing public opinion of the country, which will ultimately prevail and which is represented in the native papers; and points out that Mr. Eden made a great mistake when he recently passed strictures on the tone of the vernacular press.

EDUCATION.

10. In an article on "Reform in the Education Department," the Changes in the Education Department. *Grámbártá Prakáshiká*, of the 3rd November, makes the same observations as those noticed in paragraph 14 of our last report.

11. The *Sádhárani*, of the 4th November, upholds the opinion of Changes in the Education Department. the *Amritá Bazar Patriká* (paragraph 16 of our last report) as to the desirability of teaching English in vernacular schools to the children of the middle classes; and observes that, the remarks of Mr. Eden in this connection have been only a repetition of those made by different Governors, on different occasions, since the year 1835. It is significant that the people of Bengal have had English introduced into the vernacular schools, in spite of the known views of Government thereon. This time also, we are determined not to yield. The compulsory, disagreeable, nay, positively terrifying manner in which the work of education is carried on at the present day, makes it desirable that not only English but all other subjects, too, should cease to be taught to native lads. For this state of things, however, the teacher, examiner, and Government are responsible, and not the English language. We can well believe that, to the boys, the study of a foreign language presents difficulties which hinder, in a great measure, the development of their mental

SAHACHAR,
November 5th, 1877.

**GRAMBARTA
PRAKASHIKA,**
November 3rd, 1877.

SADHARANI,
November 4th, 1877.

abilities. But that they should proceed to learn the meaning of such words as "my ox," after having stocked their minds with a knowledge of zoology, geology, the zemindary accounts, patwari, geometry, algebra, and a host of other repulsive subjects, is what we cannot approve of. We are convinced that it is of very great importance that children of parents belonging to the

* Report of the Collector of Rajshahi, 1846.

Report of Commissioner of the Jessor Division, 1847.

Report of Commissioner of the Dacca Division, 1848.

The Principal, Mr. Carr, of the Hooghly College, in 1852, in his book on education.

Extracts are given from the sources abovementioned.

Bengalis, is due the advanced position which they occupy at the present day among the nations of India. The study of English is not only lucrative, but it is singularly fitted to improve the mind. Ardent advocates as we are of the Bengali, and fully as we recognize the remarkable progress it has made within the last few years, we must yet admit that this is in a great measure due to English education. Bengali, for a long time to come, must depend for its vitality on that language. A simultaneous study of both, therefore, is necessary and desirable. Besides, Bengali lads must not do without a knowledge of English. It is almost impossible for them to earn their livelihood without it.

12. After advertiring to the changes in the educational policy of Government, which manifest themselves more clearly than those in any other department, as one Governor succeeds another, the *Soma Prakash*, of the 5th November, observes as follows:—The educational policy of each Governor

High education vs. primary education. has become quinquennial, corresponding to the period covered by his tenure of office. There

are consequently frequent changes. While some Lieutenant-Governors are advocates of primary education, there have been others who were fully alive to the importance of high education; a third class again show an extreme hostility to it. But a ruler, who really wishes the progress of the people committed to his charge, cannot thus remain hostile to advanced learning, for the simple reason that without it there can be no real progress.

Primary education, as taught in the country, is doing a great deal of harm. It is admitted on all hands, that a "little learning is a dangerous thing." The occurrence of agrarian disputes is, in a great measure, due to the want of good education on the part of the landlords, and the little learning possessed by certain of their tenants. The lax morality and the crimes of native society of the present day all proceed from this source. While making these remarks, we do not desire it to be understood that we want to see primary education altogether banished from among the people. We only desire that there should be an extension of high education. If this were done, the education of the people would follow as a necessary consequence. An educated people, however, generally conceive hopes and aspirations which it is not always possible for Government to fulfil; while disappointment breeds discontent.

LOCAL.

13. A correspondent of the *Education Gazette*, of the 2nd November, writing from sub-division Moheshrekha, dwells on the importance of con-

The construction of an embankment asked for. structing an embankment on the east bank of the river Hooghly, extending from the mouth

of the Damudah to Oolooberiah. The crops grown in a large number of

villages in the Howrah District are annually destroyed by inundations, which, by saturating the soil with salt, diminish its fertility, and not unfrequently render it altogether unfit for agricultural operations. All this might be prevented by the construction of a bund such as that proposed. There was one in these localities before, but nothing of it exists now; the zemindars, who were entrusted with the task of keeping it in repairs, having neglected to do so.

14. The *Moorshedabad Patriká*, of the 2nd November, dwells at considerable length on the inconvenience and trouble the pleaders, suitors, and even the omlah of the Moorshedabad District have been subjected to, from the location of the Magisterial and Collectorate offices in one building. Formerly, all the offices in the district were in one block; but the late Magistrate, Mr. Mackenzie, finding it uncomfortable to hold his court in a one-storied house, proposed to remove the office to one of the barracks. The proposal has now been carried out and causes extreme inconvenience. The editor asks Government to revert to the old arrangement.

15. A correspondent of the *Sambád Púrnachandrodaya*, of the 3rd November, asks the attention of the authorities to the necessity of adopting efficient measures to check the lawlessness of certain Mahomedan ruffians, who infest the road near Porabagan, which is situated to the south of old Ballygunge. They frequently assault the unwary passers-by with clubs. The local police is both indifferent and inefficient.

FAMINE.

16. In the course of an article headed "Mr. Fawcett and the Madras Famine," the *Bhárat Sangskárak*, of the 5th November, makes the following suggestions:—The British public can, indeed, if so minded, save India from The duty of the British public in preventing famines in India. they who are to blame, if, through the House of Commons, which is their mouth-piece, they do not check the wasteful expenditure, which is every year incurred by the Indian Exchequer; if they continue to be indifferent to the interests of India; and if, by diverting funds from India, which might with advantage be applied for her benefit in this country, they seek to lessen the demands on the English Exchequer? The present system, under which the House of Commons mercilessly vote away Indian money, is indeed to be deplored.

17. The *Behár Bandhu* remarks elsewhere that, for several years past, Hindustan has not escaped an annual famine, which now seems to be an event always to be expected and difficult to avert. If one portion of the country is spared, it is almost certain another will be visited. Famine has this year appeared in Nepal and the Terái.

MISCELLANEOUS.

18. The *Urdu Guide* commences an article on the want of unanimity, with the following couplet in Persian:—

"Two hearts, when united, break down a mountain;
But disunion produces discord."

MOORSHEDABAD
PATRIKA,
November 2nd, 1877.

SAMBAD PURNA
CHANDRODAYA,
November 3rd, 1877.

BHARAT
SANGSKARAK,
November 5th, 1877.

BEHAR BANDHU,
November 7th, 1877.

URDU GUIDE,
November 3rd, 1877.

The editor then goes on to remark that there are but few unacquainted with the above fact, yet many who will not profit by it. To say nothing of the union of two hearts, it is difficult to find the heart and head united in a single person. Disunion tends to spoil all the work of the people of Hindustan ; and has, moreover, diminished their strength, obliterated their sovereignty, caused the spoliation of their wealth, and upset their trade. The last of these will better be illustrated by the fact, that, when a *Hindustani* sets about any new business and seeks to establish himself in it, there are those of his brethren, who, instead of lending him a helping hand to confirm and perpetuate his undertaking, rather set up in opposition to him ; and thus both are ruined. This is especially the case with native newspapers : a fresh instance of this is to be found in the *Oudh Punch*, started under very favorable and fair auspices with promising prospects, when some of its subscribers and contributors have determined upon starting a rival paper of the same kind. The editor concludes by advising all the supporters of the *Oudh Punch* to stand by it and continue their support.

SOMA PRakash,
November 5th, 1877.

19. The *Soma Prakash*, of the 5th November, remarks that the people of Lower Bengal are every year at this time, at the approach of the cold season, liable to disease, especially the malarious fever ; and the suffering caused by this pestilence is extreme and protracted. Government,

The annual out-break of malarious fever at the approach of the cold season.

whose duty it is to prevent its out-break, is not sufficiently alive to it. Under the British Government, the people enjoy security of life and property, facilities of communication and numberless other advantages ; but efforts to save them from such periodical attacks of disease are neither adequate nor sustained. Do the readers suppose that its duty in this matter is discharged, if only a few phials of quinine and some native doctors are sent to the afflicted localities ? Hundreds of untimely deaths occur in the villages ; thus clearly shewing that the rulers are wanting in their duty. Railways and roads and courts of justice are, of course, all good things ; but if people continue to die at the present rate, who will reap the benefit of such institutions ? Medicines and doctors serve at best to check the prevalence of disease ; but what steps have been taken to prevent its out-break ? Government cannot too soon attend to the matter. We believe that the habits of the people, especially as regards their dwelling houses, food and dress, require to be greatly modified, before there can be any change for the better ; and that they should be induced by means of persuasion to appreciate the importance of sanitation.

BEHAR BANDHU,
November 7th, 1877.

The Dewáli in Behar.

20. The *Behár Bandhu* says that the practice of *gambling* continued as before during the recent *Dewáli* festival, but there was a visible diminution in the illuminations, which the editor attributes to the desire, of those about to receive the title of *Mahárájahs*, to husband their resources for the pleasures of the forthcoming Durbar.

BEHAR BANDHU.

A professor and his peon.

21. This paper gives in detail an account of an incident, said to have recently taken place between Mr. Archibald, a professor of the Patna College, and his peon. It appears the gentleman had been for some days displeased with his *chaprásie*. On the 6th November, while in his conveyance, he called to the peon, who, through fear, would not approach. On this, the Sahib pelted him with stones ; but a short while after, he, thinking that the Sahib's anger had cooled, came up to the carriage. The gentleman's ire increased fourfold

on seeing him ; he jumped out, and, like a lion, sprung towards the peon, who ran away. It was a sight to see the lion chasing his prey and gnashing his teeth ; but the man had some days more of life left him, nor was his spleen enlarged at the time. He concealed himself in a milk-woman's house and shut the door. The Sahib desired the owner of the place to open it, but she refused and received some abuse also. When the gentleman could do no more, he returned, wringing his hands in disappointment.

JOHN ROBINSON,

Government Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 10th November 1877.

